

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the Office Action mailed November 27, 2007.

By this Amendment, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of allowable claim 4. Further, claim 5 has been amended to make the claim consistent with the changes to claim 1, and claim 8 has been amended to be in independent form to include the limitations of the base claim and intervening claims. Thus, in view of the amendments to claim 1, claims 4 and 7 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer to their underlying subject matter. Thus, claims 1, 2, 5 and 8-12 are currently pending in this application. Support for the claim amendments can be readily found variously throughout the specification and the original claims.

In view of these amendments, Applicant believes that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration in light of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1, 2, 7 and 10-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Cutler et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,290,661). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection. However, in the interest of expediting the allowance of the present application, Applicant has amended claim 1 to incorporate the subject matter of allowable claim 4, and canceled claim 7. Hence, in view of the amendments to the claims, this rejection can no longer be sustained and should be withdrawn. Thus, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, all the claims now pending in the present application are believed to be clearly patentable over the outstanding rejections. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration of the claims in light of the above remarks is courteously solicited. If the Examiner has any comments or suggestions that could place this application in even better form, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the below-listed number.

Dated: January 28, 2008

Respectfully submitted,



By: _____

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Should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper, or if a petition for extension of time is required for timely acceptance of same, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-4422 for any such fees; and applicant(s) hereby petition for any needed extension of time.